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LUNCHEON.

The afternoon of February 22, 1905, will ever be memorable in the records of the Columbia Historical Society because of the handsome entertainment provided for them by Vice-President Hagner, who invited the Society and a number of distinguished guests to a luncheon at the Hotel Shoreham, from 2 to 5 o'clock, "to celebrate the birthday of the Father of his Country."

The Banquet Hall was gay with flags and palms, while over the mantel at the head of the room, hung a fine portrait of Washington artistically draped in the national colors. The luncheon table glowed with the light of wax tapers under crimson shades, delighting the eye with the daintiness of its service, while the palate was tickled with the excellence of the dishes served.

Outdoors the weather was bright and clear, indoors but one thing was lacking for the perfect enjoyment of so well-planned an occasion and that was the presence of our genial host, detained at home by the sudden and alarming illness of his wife.

In the absence of Vice-President Hagner, the guests were welcomed by President Kasson, who warmed the hearts of all present by a glowing tribute to the character and services of the man to whom more than to any other, we owe our national life and institutions.

A letter from General Washington to Colonel Baylor, full of the devotion to the welfare of one's country that should animate the heart of every true citizen, was read by the Secretary.

Mr. Lewis J. Davis read extracts from the General's will relative to his property in this city and made appropriate remarks. Mr. George C. Henning added an anecdote which pleasantly showed the correctness of the surveying done by Washington, himself, while planning the city.

Vice-President Spofford, in an informal talk, brought out many of the personal traits of the man, Washington, and complimented the Society on the good work they had done in the field of authentic history.

President Kasson then introduced the subject of changing the date of the Presidential Inauguration. The resulting discussion was participated in by Messrs. John Joy Edson, J. J. Hemphill, A. R. Spofford and M. I. Weller.

Vice-President Spofford moved a vote of thanks to our absent host, seconded by Mr. Davis and unanimously carried.

The remainder of the time was given to the luncheon and to pleasant conversation.